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Yield Forecasts for Kentucky Crops Improve

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the September Crop Production on September 12, showing increased yield forecasts for field crops.

“Based on producer reports, soybean, corn and tobacco yield forecasts increased from a month ago,” said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. “Rainfall in the middle of August was very timely, improving an already good situation. The soybean yield forecast September 1 is 57 bushels per acre, which if realized, would break the current record high yield of 53 bushels per acre.”

Soybean production for **Kentucky** is forecast at 119 million bushels, up 8 percent from the August forecast and up 16 percent from 2017. Yield was estimated at 57.0 bushels per acre, up 4.0 from last month. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 2.09 million acres, up 150,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** soybean production is forecast at 4.69 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the August forecast but up 7 percent from last year. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 52.8 bushels per acre, up 1.2 bushels from last month but up 3.7 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 88.9 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but down 1 percent from 2017.

“Reports from early corn harvest are suggesting state-wide yields will be better than the five year average of 167 bushels per acre,” Knopf added. **Corn** production in **Kentucky** is forecast at 214 million bushels, up 1 percent from the August forecast but down 1 percent from the 2017 crop. Yield was estimated at 177 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from last month and down 1.0 bushel from last year. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.21 million acres, down 10,000 acres from 2017. The **U.S.** corn production is forecast at 14.8 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the August forecast and up 2 percent from last year’s record production. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 181.3 bushels per acre, up 2.9 bushels from last month and up 4.7 bushels from 2017. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 81.8 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but down 1 percent from 2017.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 106 million pounds, up 1 percent from the August forecast but down 18 percent from 2017. Yield was projected at 2,000 pounds per acre, up 100 pounds from last month but down 50 pounds from the 2017 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 53,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year’s crop. For the **burley producing states** production is forecast at 129 million pounds, down 20 percent from last year. Burley growers plan to harvest 64,800 acres, down 20 percent from 2017. Yields were expected to average 1,996 pounds per acre, up 19 pounds from last year.

Production of **Kentucky dark fire-cured** tobacco is forecast at 35.2 million pounds, unchanged from the August forecast but down 7 percent from the previous year. **Dark air-cured** tobacco production is forecast at 19.4 million pounds, up 20 percent from the August forecast last year.

**CROP PRODUCTION SUMMARY, SEPTEMBER 1
KENTUCKY AND UNITED STATES**

Crops	Area Planted ¹		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production	
	2017	2018	2017	2018 ²	2017	2018 ¹		2017	2018 ¹
						Aug 1	Sep 1 ²		
	KENTUCKY								
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(000 bu)	(000 bu)
Corn ³	1,320	1,310	1,220	1,210	178.0	175.0	177.0	217,160	214,170
Soybeans ³	1,950	2,100	1,940	2,090	53.0	53.0	57.0	102,820	119,130
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	480	460	310	350	77.0	66.0	--	23,870	23,100
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)	(000 tons)	(000 tons)
Hay:									
All	--	--	2,150	2,240	2.48	2.29	--	5,325	5,138
Alfalfa	--	--	150	140	3.50	3.70	--	525	518
Other, All	--	--	2,000	2,100	2.40	2.20	--	4,800	4,620
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(000 pounds)	(000 pounds)
Tobacco:									
All	--	--	80,500	71,200	2,277	2,165	2,256	183,300	160,640
Burley	--	--	63,000	53,000	2,050	1,900	2,000	129,150	106,000
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	11,500	11,000	3,300	3,200	3,200	37,950	35,200
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	6,000	7,200	2,700	2,700	2,700	16,200	19,440
	UNITED STATES								
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(000 bu)	(000 bu)
Corn ³	90,167	89,128	82,703	81,770	176.6	178.4	181.3	14,604,067	14,826,690
Soybeans ³	90,142	89,557	89,522	88,862	49.1	51.6	52.8	4,391,553	4,693,135
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	32,696	32,732	25,291	24,816	50.2	47.9	--	1,269,437	1,189,199
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)	(000 tons)	(000 tons)
Hay:									
All	--	--	53,784	55,068	2.44	2.33	--	131,455	128,504
Alfalfa	--	--	16,563	17,351	3.32	3.33	--	55,068	57,778
Other, All	--	--	37,221	37,717	2.05	1.88	--	76,387	70,726
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(000 pounds)	(000 pounds)
Tobacco:									
All	--	--	321,470	304,980	2,209	2,130	2,088	710,161	636,772
Burley	--	--	81,500	64,800	1,977	1,905	1,996	161,140	129,360
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	19,270	18,880	3,089	3,029	3,060	59,531	57,772
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	7,600	10,000	2,658	2,620	2,616	20,200	26,160

¹ Commodities with estimates not available are (denoted by "--"). ² Forecasted. ³ Area harvested represents grain. ⁴ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

KENTUCKY CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARM MARKETINGS, 2015 - 2017

Commodity	2015 ¹	2016 ¹	2017	2017 % of Total	2017 % of 2016
	<i>(1,000 Dollars)</i>	<i>(1,000 Dollars)</i>	<i>(1,000 Dollars)</i>	%	%
ALL COMMODITIES ²	5,796,726	5,431,722	5,685,719	100.0	105
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS ²	3,339,399	2,941,088	3,199,321	56.3	109
Meat Animals	1,034,519	830,263	851,814	15.0	103
Cattle and calves	927,210	727,565	740,215	13.0	102
Hogs	107,309	102,698	111,599	2.0	109
Dairy products, Milk	201,160	179,052	195,615	3.4	109
Poultry and eggs	1,179,261	1,021,784	1,169,281	20.6	114
Broilers	960,169	875,600	1,029,846	18.1	118
Other livestock ³	924,459	909,989	982,610	17.3	108
CROPS ^{2 4}	2,457,326	2,490,634	2,486,399	43.7	100
Food Grains	163,374	152,949	117,307	2.1	77
Wheat	163,374	152,949	117,307	2.1	77
Feed Crops ⁵	965,758	990,070	948,186	16.7	96
Corn	750,124	764,728	720,253	12.7	94
Tobacco	371,981	296,272	345,372	6.1	117
Oil Crops ⁶	788,400	883,530	907,716	16.0	103
All Other Crops ⁷	167,813	167,813	167,817	3.0	100

Source: USDA - Economic Research Service. ** -- Indicates less than .05%. ** NA-Not Available.

¹ Revised. ²May not add due to rounding. ³Includes horses, stud fees, mules, sheep and lambs, goats, turkeys, aquaculture, honey, wool, rabbits, bison and all other livestock. ⁴Forest products not included in farm cash receipts, but are included in net farm income. ⁵Includes corn and hay. ⁶Includes soybeans.

⁷Includes greenhouse/nursery, fruits and nuts, vegetables, barley, sorghum grain, popcorn, sunflowers, other seeds, other field crops and mushrooms.

FARM PRODUCTION EXPENDITURES 2016 - 2017

Expenditure - Farm Share	Atlantic Region ¹					United States ²				
	Average per Farm ³		Total Expenditures			Average per Farm ³		Total Expenditures		
			2016	2017	17 /16			2016	2017	17 /16
	2016	2017				2016	2017			
	\$	\$	Million \$	Million \$	%	\$	\$	Million \$	Million \$	%
Total Farm Production										
Expenditures ⁴	103,074	106,117	42,110	43,130	102	169,035	176,352	346,900	359,800	104
Livestock, Poultry & Related Expenses ⁵	9,252	10,334	3,780	4,200	111	19,491	20,635	40,000	42,100	105
Feed	23,082	23,447	9,430	9,530	101	27,092	27,056	55,600	55,200	99
Farm Services ⁶	12,483	12,351	5,100	5,020	98	20,319	21,468	41,700	43,800	105
Rent ⁷	4,259	3,961	1,740	1,610	93	14,521	14,557	29,800	29,700	100
Agricultural Chemicals ⁸	2,839	2,805	1,160	1,140	98	7,407	7,597	15,200	15,500	102
Fertilizer, Lime & Soil Conditioners ⁸	5,361	4,970	2,190	2,020	92	11,451	10,783	23,500	22,000	94
Interest	2,325	2,608	950	1,060	112	4,434	4,852	9,100	9,900	109
Taxes (Real Estate & Property)	3,916	4,232	1,600	1,720	108	5,799	6,372	11,900	13,000	109
Labor	11,162	10,703	4,560	4,350	95	16,616	17,204	34,100	35,100	103
Fuels	3,402	3,912	1,390	1,590	114	5,506	5,882	11,300	12,000	106
Farm Supplies & Repairs ⁹	6,242	6,446	2,550	2,620	103	8,576	8,970	17,600	18,300	104
Farm Improvements & Construction ¹⁰	5,972	6,840	2,440	2,780	114	7,065	8,038	14,500	16,400	113
Tractors & Self-Propelled Farm Machinery	3,696	3,740	1,510	1,520	101	5,165	6,176	10,600	12,600	119
Other Farm Machinery	1,713	1,968	700	800	114	2,436	2,892	5,000	5,900	118
Seeds & Plants ¹¹	5,385	5,536	2,200	2,250	102	10,623	10,881	21,800	22,200	102
Trucks & Autos	1,738	2,067	710	840	118	2,144	2,696	4,400	5,500	125
Miscellaneous Capital Expenses ¹²	245	197	100	80	80	390	294	800	600	75

¹ Atlantic: CT, DE, KY, ME, MD, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, TN, VA, VT, WV. ²Excludes AK and HI. ³Total expenditures divided by total number of farms. Items may not sum to total due to rounding. ⁴Includes landlord and contractor share of farm production expenses. ⁵Includes purchases and leasing of livestock and poultry. ⁶Includes all crop custom work, veterinary custom services, transportation costs, marketing charges, insurance, leasing of machinery and equipment, utilities, general expenses, and miscellaneous business expenses. ⁷Includes cash rent paid, share rent, plus public and private grazing fees. ⁸Includes material and application costs. ⁹Includes bedding/litter, marketing containers, power farm shop equipment, oils and lubricants, temporary fencing, miscellaneous non-capital equipment and supplies, repairs and maintenance of equipment not depreciated, and other small, non-capital equipment. ¹⁰Includes all expenditures related to new construction or repairs.

Livestock Average Prices Received ^{1 2}

Commodity	United States		
	Jul 2017	Jun 2018	Jul 2018
	\$ / Cwt.	\$ / Cwt.	\$ / Cwt.
All Hogs	67.30	59.10	58.60
Barrows & Gilts	67.40	59.80	59.20
Sows	64.80	42.00	43.60
All Beef Cattle ³	120.00	112.00	110.00
Steers & Heifers ⁴	121.00	113.00	112.00
Cows	77.30	66.30	66.80
Calves ⁵	157.00	158.00	153.00

¹ U.S. prices based on data provided by USDA AMS. ² Only full month prices published starting in January 2015. ³ "Steers & Heifers" and "Cows" combined. ⁴ 500 lbs. and over. ⁵ Under 500 lbs.

Crop Average Prices Received ¹

Commodity	Kentucky		U.S.	
	Jul 2017	Jul 2018	Jul 2017	Jul 2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$
All Corn (Bu) ²³	3.91	3.84	3.49	3.47
Soybeans (Bu) ²	9.78	9.86	9.42	9.10
Winter Wheat (Bu) ²	(4)	(4)	4.56	4.92
Hay, Alfalfa (Ton)	200.00	220.00	153.00	179.00
Hay, Other (Ton)	100.00	140.00	120.00	126.00

¹ Only full month prices published starting in January 2015. ² Includes contract sales paid during month. ³ Includes yellow and white corn. ⁴ Kentucky is a minor State, not published separately.

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 17.3 billion pounds, up 0.4 percent from July 2017. June revised production, at 17.2 billion pounds, was up 1.6 percent from June 2017. The June revision represented an increase of 40 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,980 pounds for July, 8 pounds above July 2017. This is the highest production per cow for the month of July since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.74 million head, 1,000 head more than July 2017, but 8,000 head less than June 2018.

Internet Access: Data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>